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24 June 1999

SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: AFRL-PR-ED-TP-FY99-0159  
S. Tam and M.E. Fajardo, "Quantitative Matrix Isolation Spectroscopy in Heavily Doped Millimeters Thick  
Parahydrogen Solids"

Gordon Research Conference (International)  
(Statement A)

# Quantitative Matrix Isolation Spectroscopy in Heavily Doped Millimeters Thick Parahydrogen Solids

20021122 004

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## TASK OBJECTIVE

Develop a technique for quantifying dopant species identities and concentrations in optically dense samples using the dopant-induced infrared (IR) absorptions.

## BACKGROUND

Have demonstrated we can produce gram scale samples of solid pH<sub>2</sub> doped with HEDM species with concentrations of 0.01 to 0.1%.

Dopants were produced using laser ablation which is not a suitable method for producing high concentrations.

Three teams in the Cryosolids Working Group tasked with: 1) developing new dopant sources; 2) developing a diagnostic for characterizing the new sources; and **3) developing diagnostic tools for detecting the products of these new sources in pH<sub>2</sub>.**

## APPROACH

Direct absorption measurements of thick, heavily concentrated samples of HEDM doped pH<sub>2</sub> solids will not work as a diagnostic for these new sources.

Alternative is to use the dopant-induced IR absorptions as a diagnostic.

# High Energy Density Matter (HEDM) Cryosolid Propellants

## HEDM Cryosolid Program Objectives

- Trap 5% molar concentration of energetic additives in solid hydrogen.
- Demonstrate size-scalable sample production method.

## Payoffs

### Increased Specific Impulse

$$I_{sp} \propto \sqrt{\Delta H_{sp}}$$

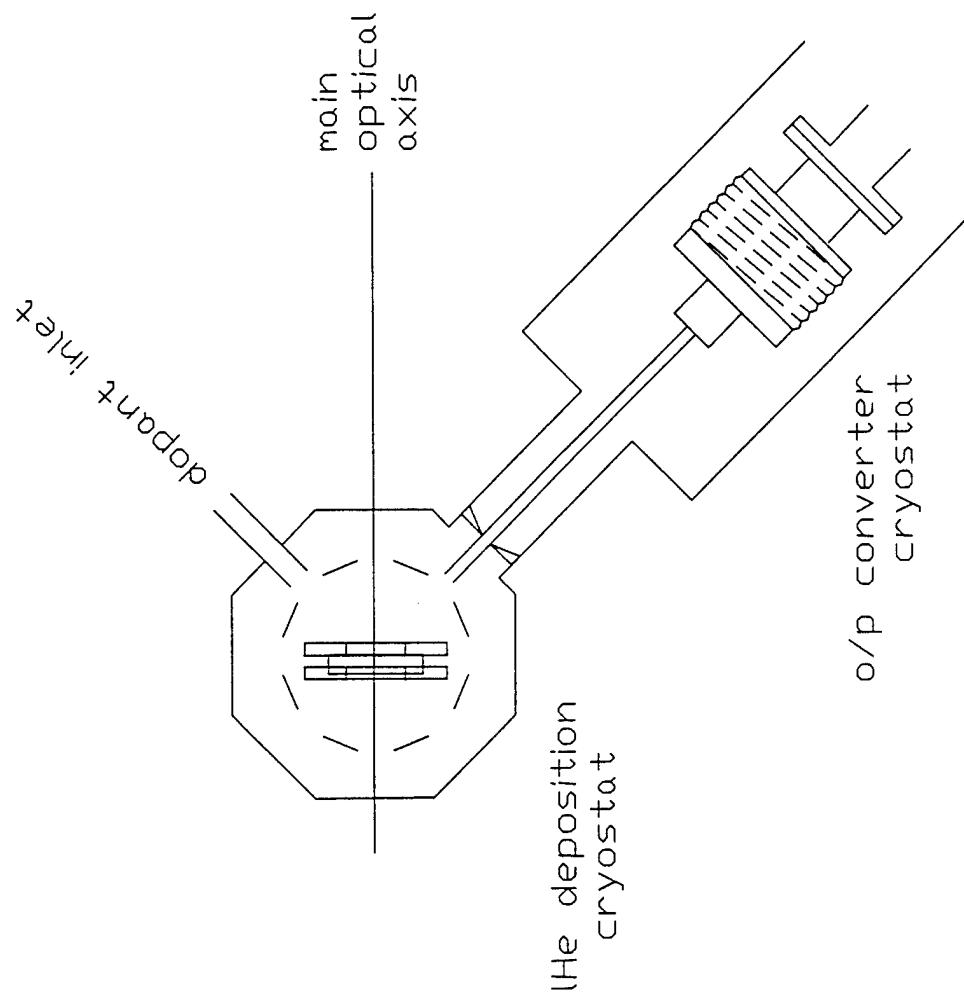
LOX/LH<sub>2</sub>: I<sub>sp</sub> = 390 s  
5% B/H<sub>2</sub> + LOX: I<sub>sp</sub> = 500 s (+30%)\*

\*calculated for P<sub>chamber</sub> = 1000 psia, P<sub>exhaust</sub> = 14.7 psia

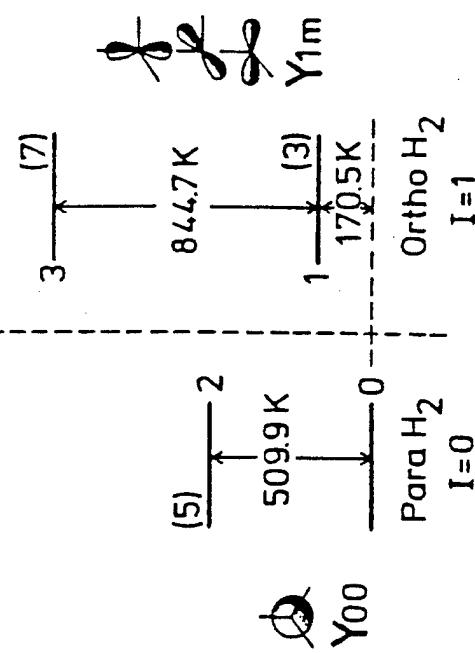
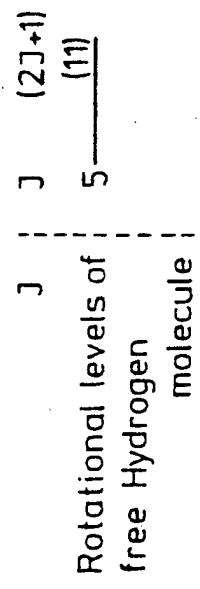
### Greater Propellant Density

liquid H<sub>2</sub> : = 0.070 g/cm<sup>3</sup>  
solid H<sub>2</sub> : = 0.087 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (+25%)  
50/50 liquid He/solid H<sub>2</sub> : = 0.105 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (+50%)

# Experimental Diagram



# Ortho- and Para-Hydrogen

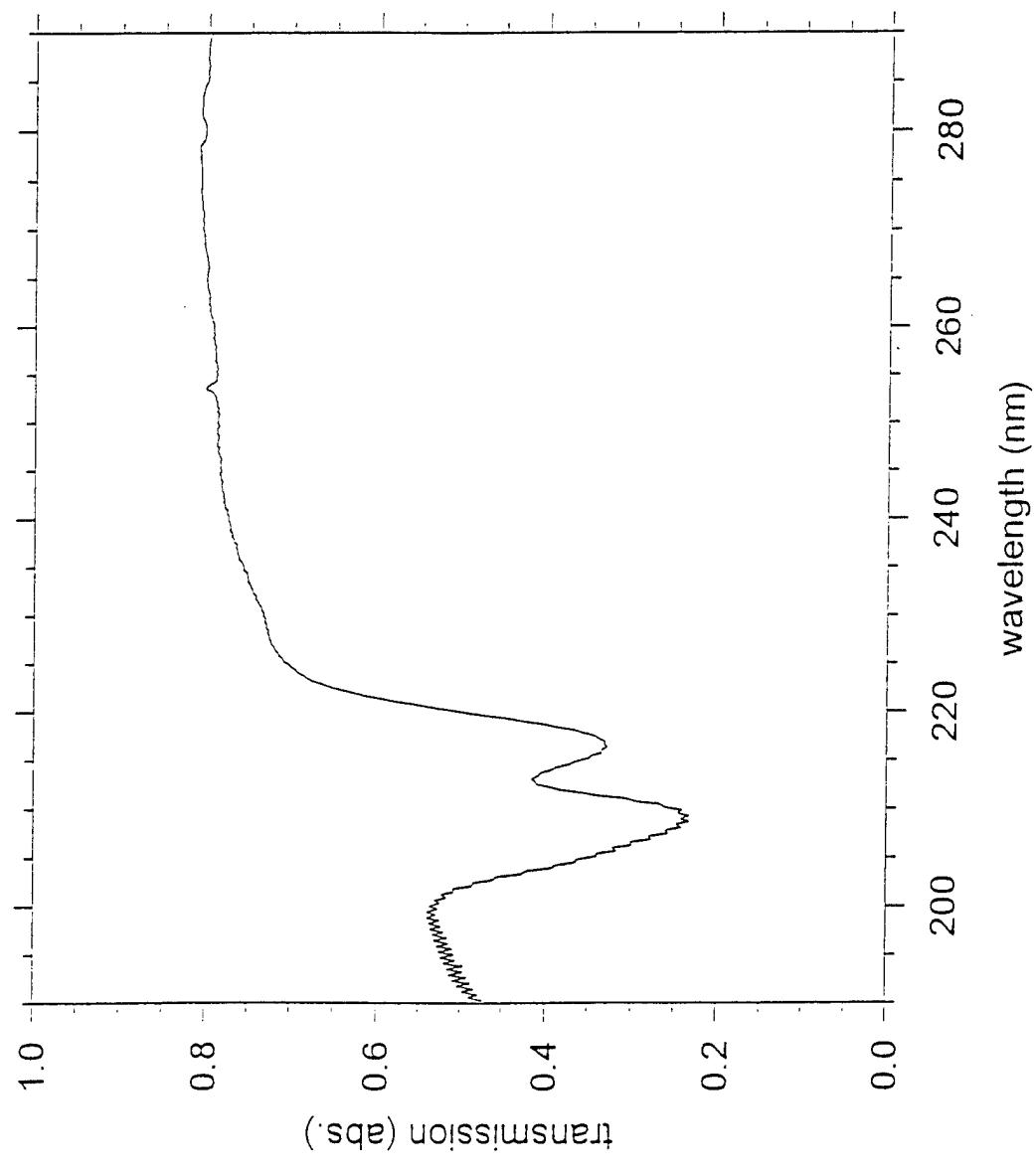


I.F. Silvera  
 Rev. Mod. Phys.,  
 52, 393 (1980).

Naas  
Spectro

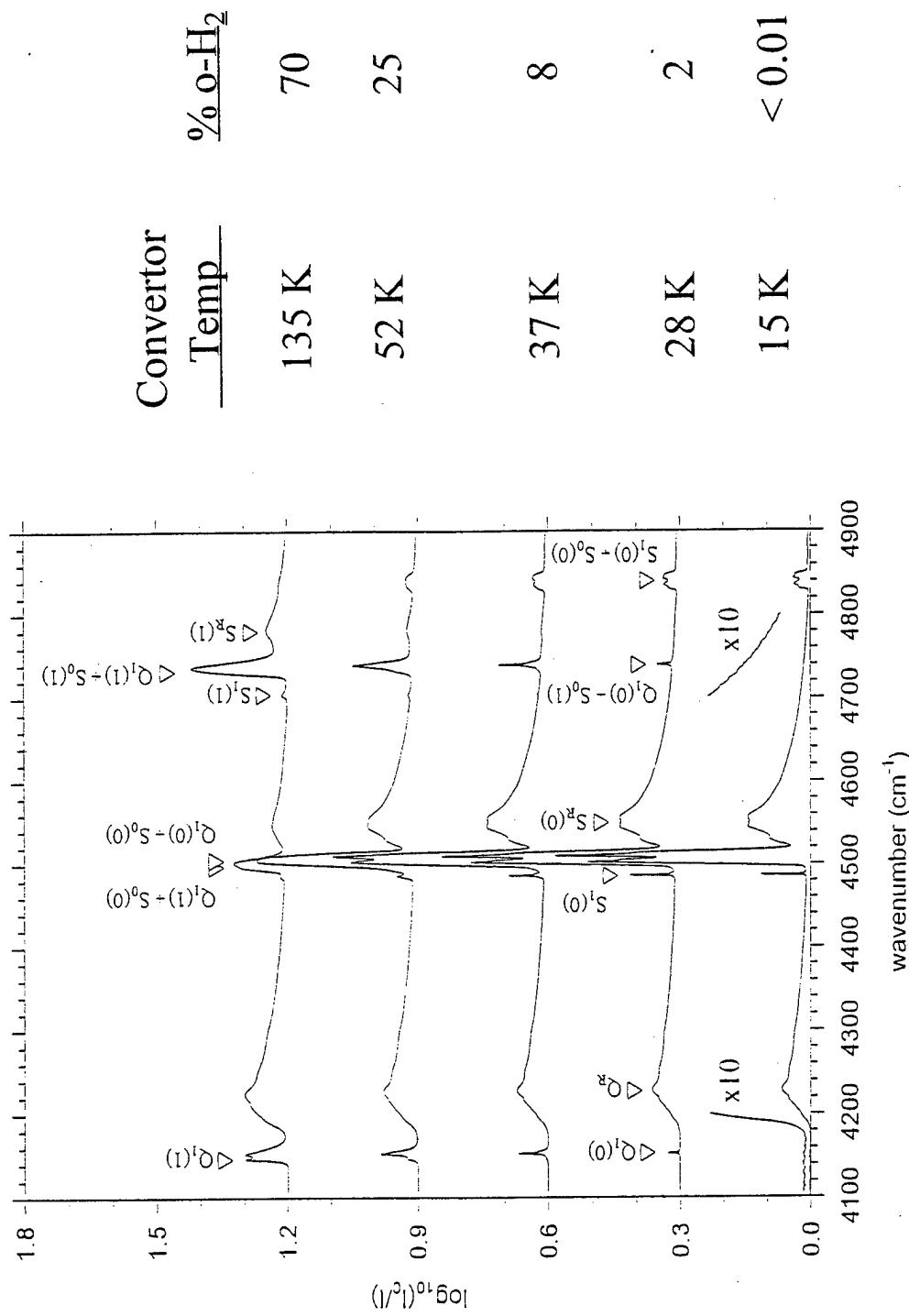
## B Ablation in p-H<sub>2</sub> Matrix Transmission Spectrum at 2 K

NOTE:  
Transmission = 0.8  
at 240 nm!



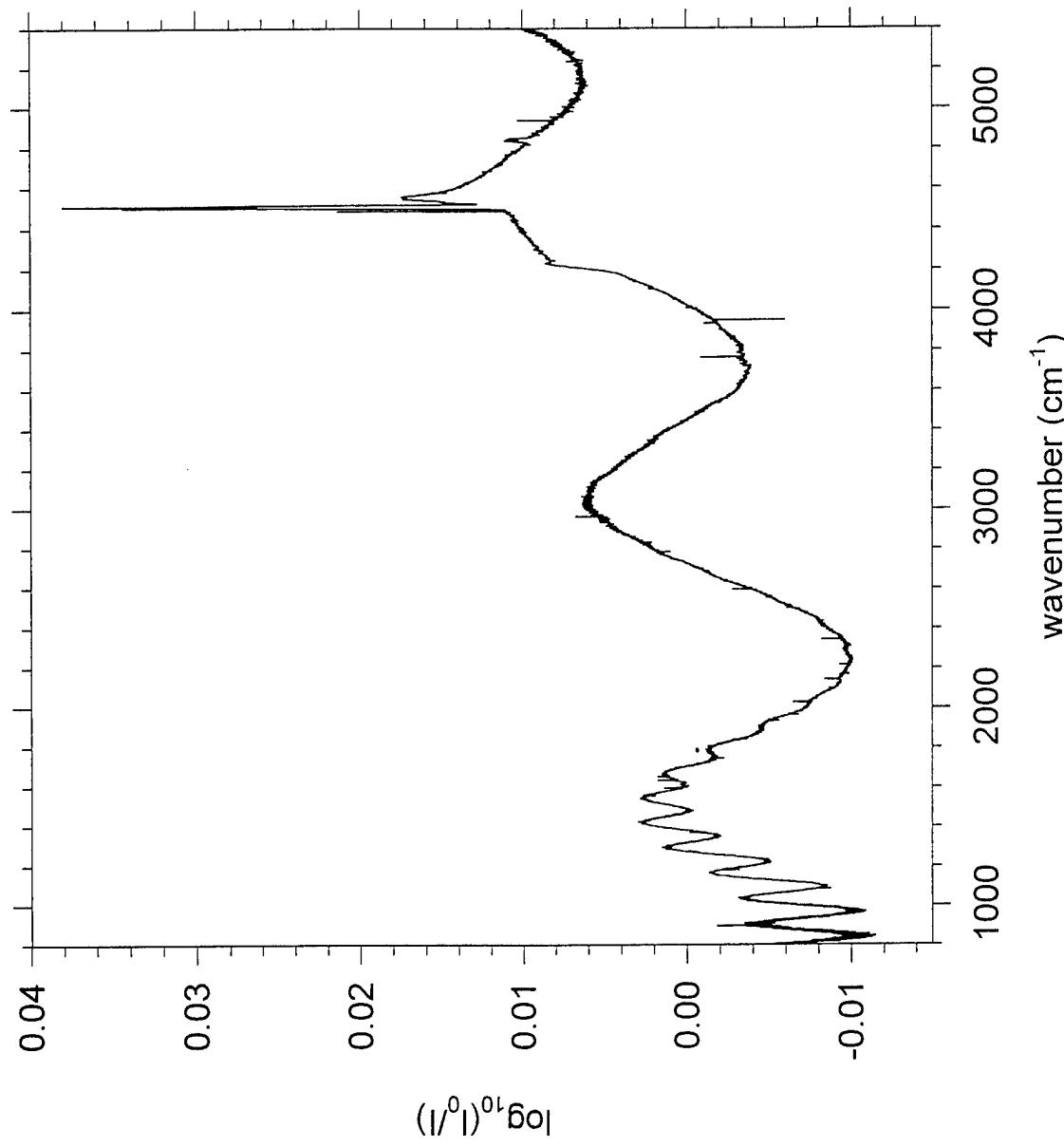
## Demonstration of Control of o-H<sub>2</sub> Fraction

At 0% o-H2:  
 Observation of  $S_1(0)$   
 and non-observation  
 of  $Q_1(0)$  implies  
 h.c.p. solid



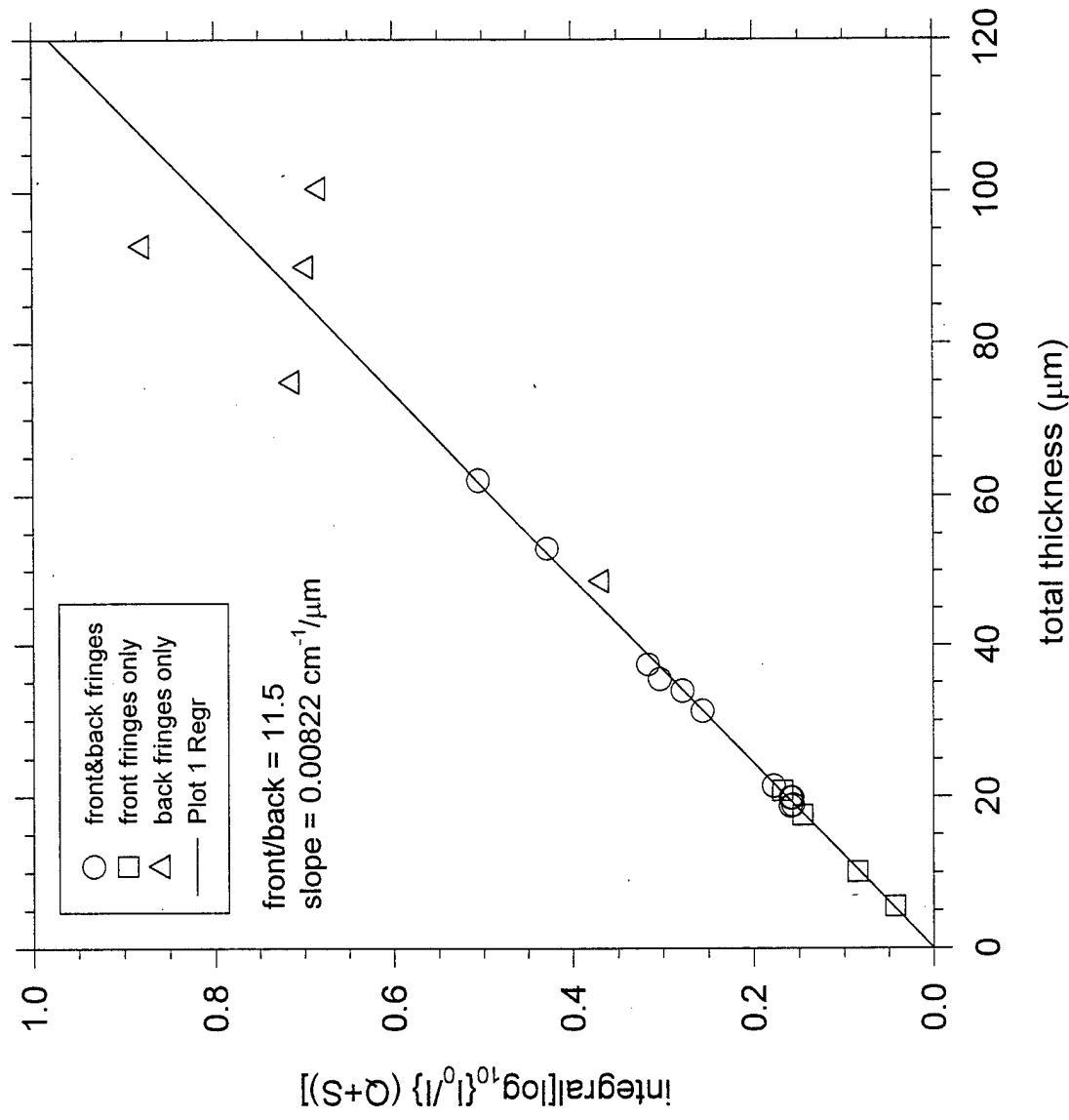
Reference:  
 J. van Kranendonk  
 & H.P. Gush,  
 Phys. Lett., **1**, 22  
 (1962).

IR Absorption Spectrum of a 37.4  $\mu\text{m}$  Thick Vapor Deposited pH<sub>2</sub>  
Solid (34.4  $\mu\text{m}$  front + 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$  back)



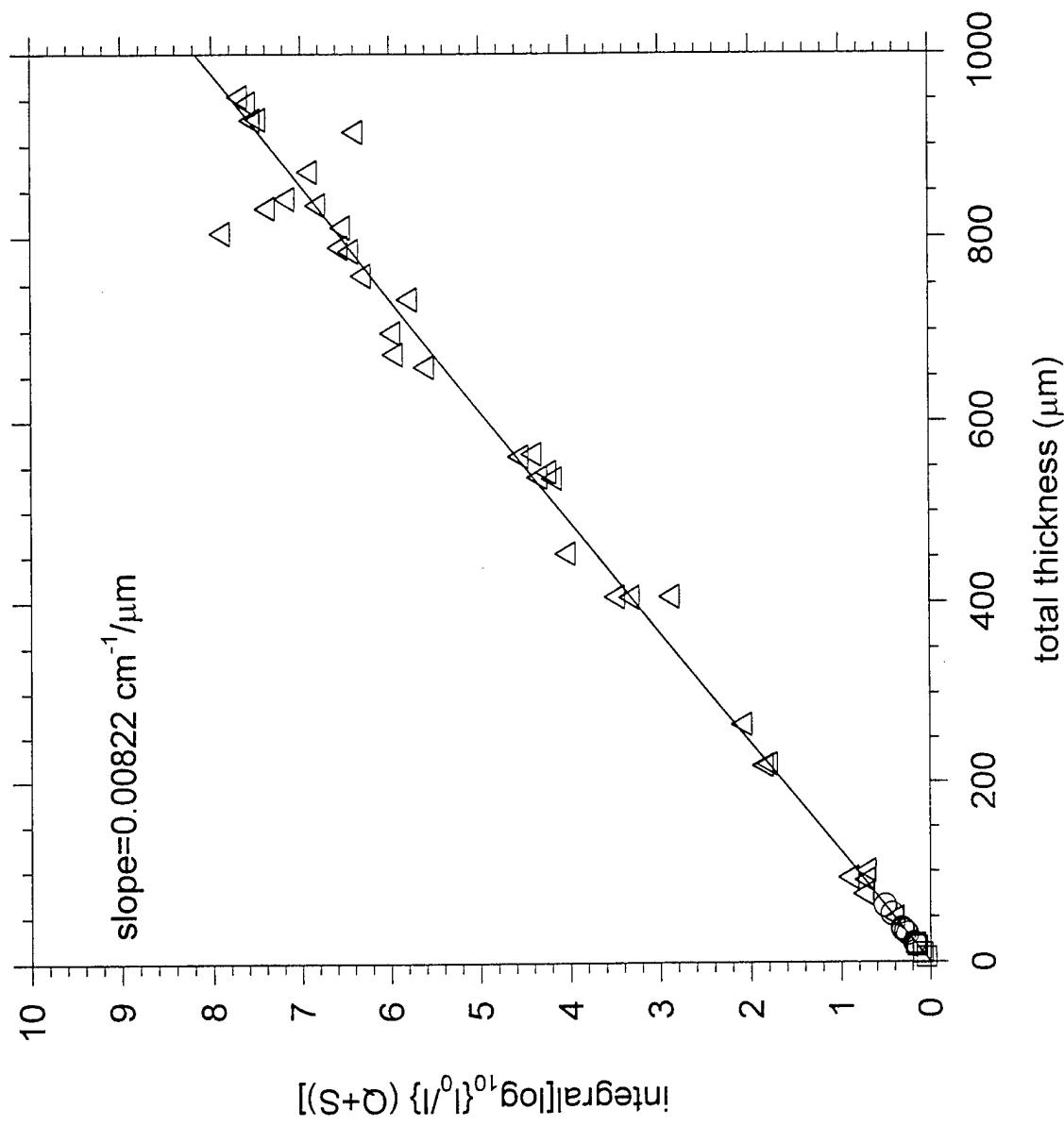
WLN

# Correlation of the Total Thickness Determined by Interferometry versus the Integrated Absorption Intensity of the $Q_1(0) + S_0(0)$ Transition of Solid $\text{pH}_2$



NEW

## Extrapolation of the Total Thickness versus the Integrated Absorption Intensity of the $Q_1(0) + S_0(0)$ Transition of Solid $\text{pH}_2$



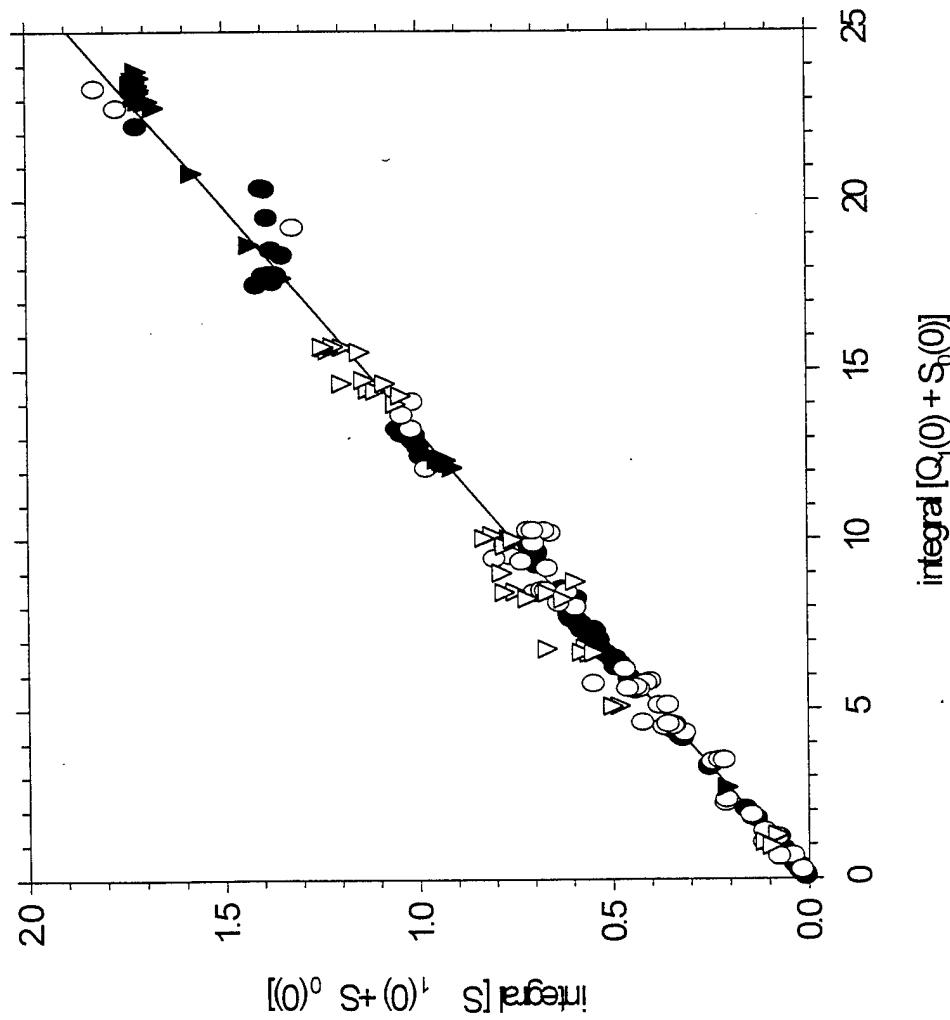
# Correlation between the Integrated Intensities of the $Q_1(0) + S_0(0)$ and $S_1(0) + S_0(0)$ Transitions of Vapor Deposited pH<sub>2</sub> Solids

## NOTES

$$\alpha_{Q+S} = 188 \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$\alpha_{S+S} = 0.0757 \text{ } \alpha_{Q+S} = 14.2 \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

For determining thickness:



Band Range  
 $Q_1(0) + S_0(0)$  0-1 mm

$S_1(0) + S_0(0)$  1-10 mm

## Beer's Law

$$A(\tilde{V}) \equiv 2.303 \log_{10} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} \right) = \alpha c l$$

$$c = \frac{A(\tilde{V})}{\alpha l} \Rightarrow \frac{2.303 \int_{band} \log_{10} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} \right) d\tilde{V}}{l \int_{band} \alpha(\tilde{V}) d\tilde{V}}$$

Increased path lengths or highly concentrated samples can cause saturation of the absorption.

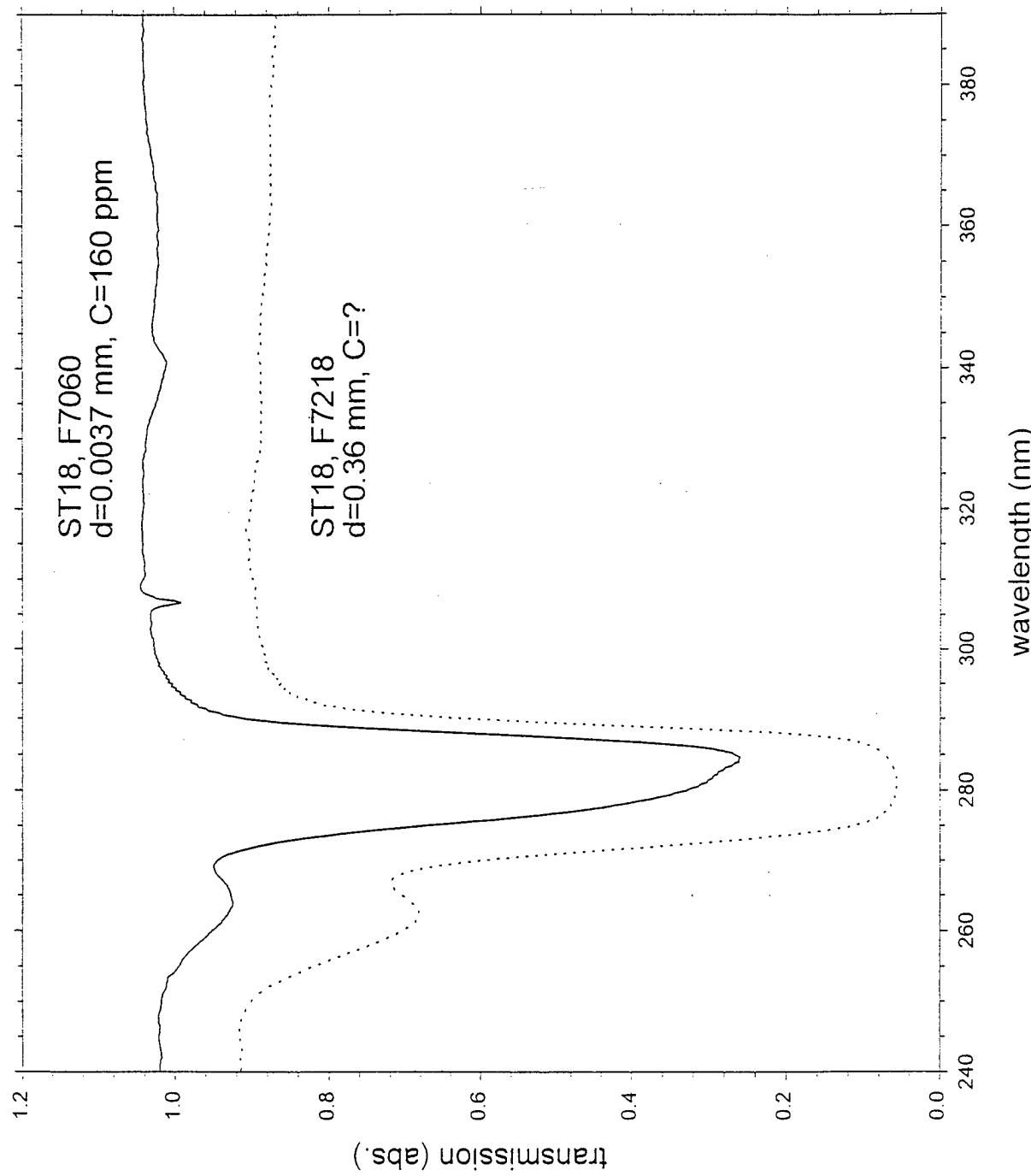
If we want to work with gram scale, heavily-doped pI-I<sub>2</sub> samples, we require a spectral feature that has a very small intrinsic absorption coefficient ( $\alpha$ ) to compensate for the higher  $c$  and  $l$ .

We can use dopant-induced infrared absorptions to determine the concentration.

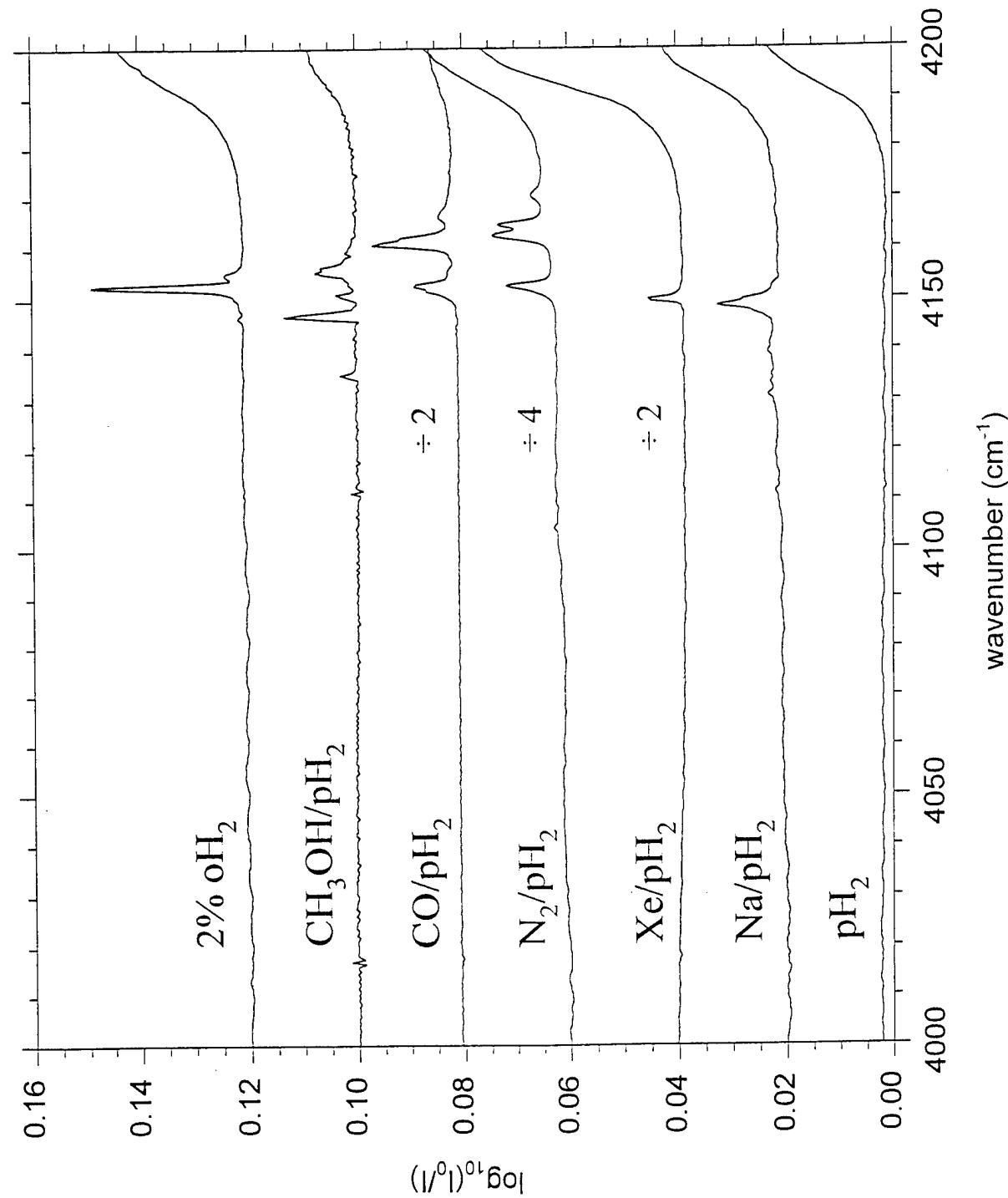
BUT: Need to determine  $\alpha_{ind}$   $\equiv$  the dopant-host intrinsic absorption strength

Old  
Sample

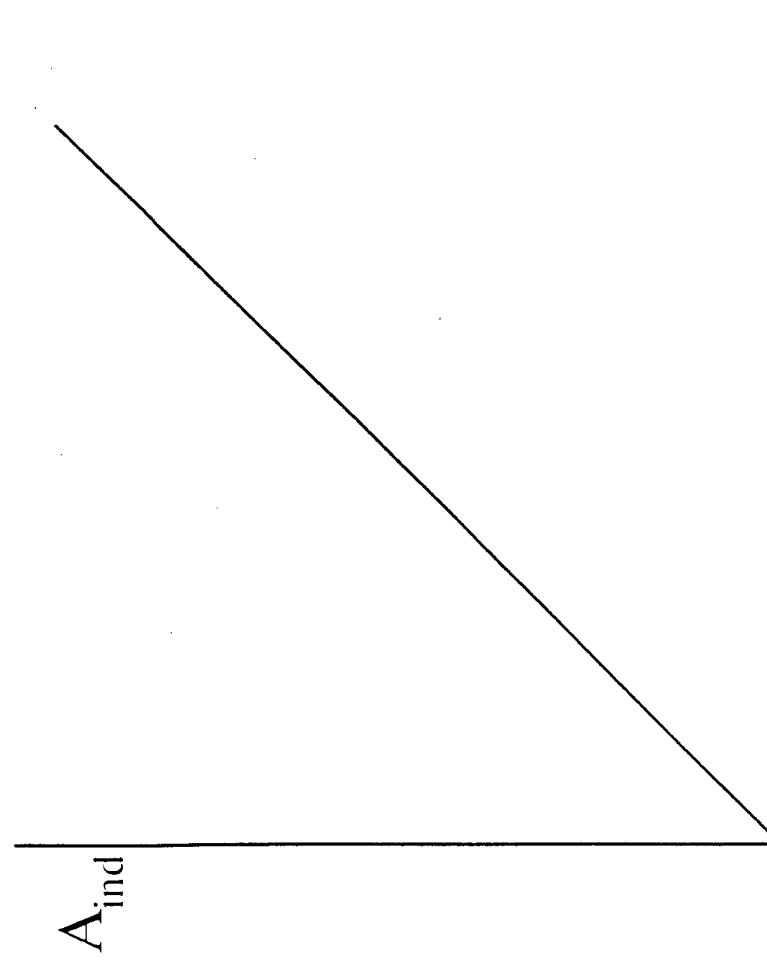
## Mg/pH<sub>2</sub> and Mg/OD<sub>2</sub>, T=2 K



## Examples of Dopant Induced H<sub>2</sub> Absorptions



## Determining $\alpha_{ind}$ from $\alpha$



Where:

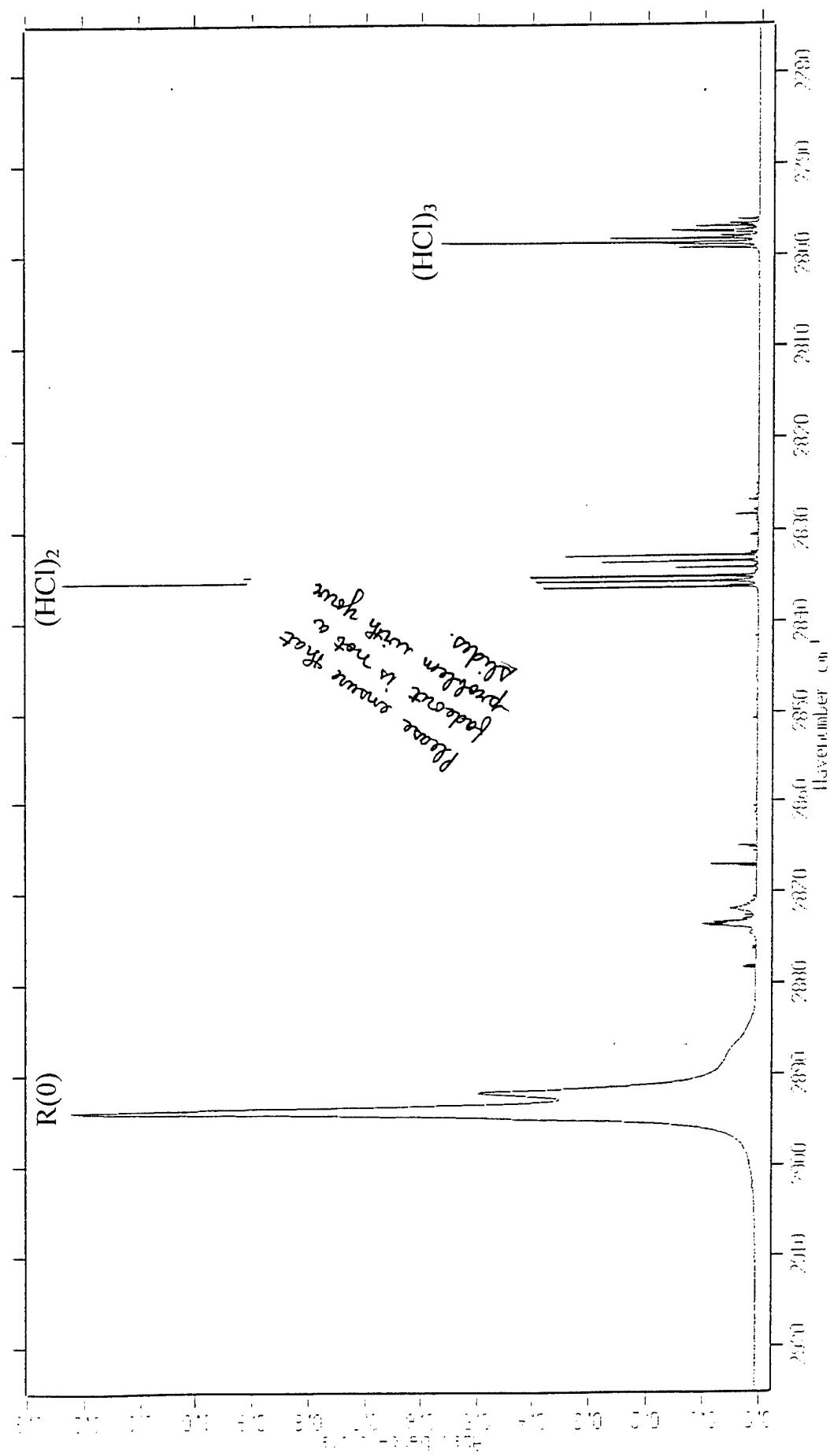
$$\text{Slope of the line} = \frac{\alpha_{ind}}{\alpha}$$

$\alpha \equiv$  property of the dopant in the  
gas phase

$\alpha_{ind} \equiv$  property of the dopant  
and pH<sub>2</sub> in solid pH<sub>2</sub>

$A_{dop}$

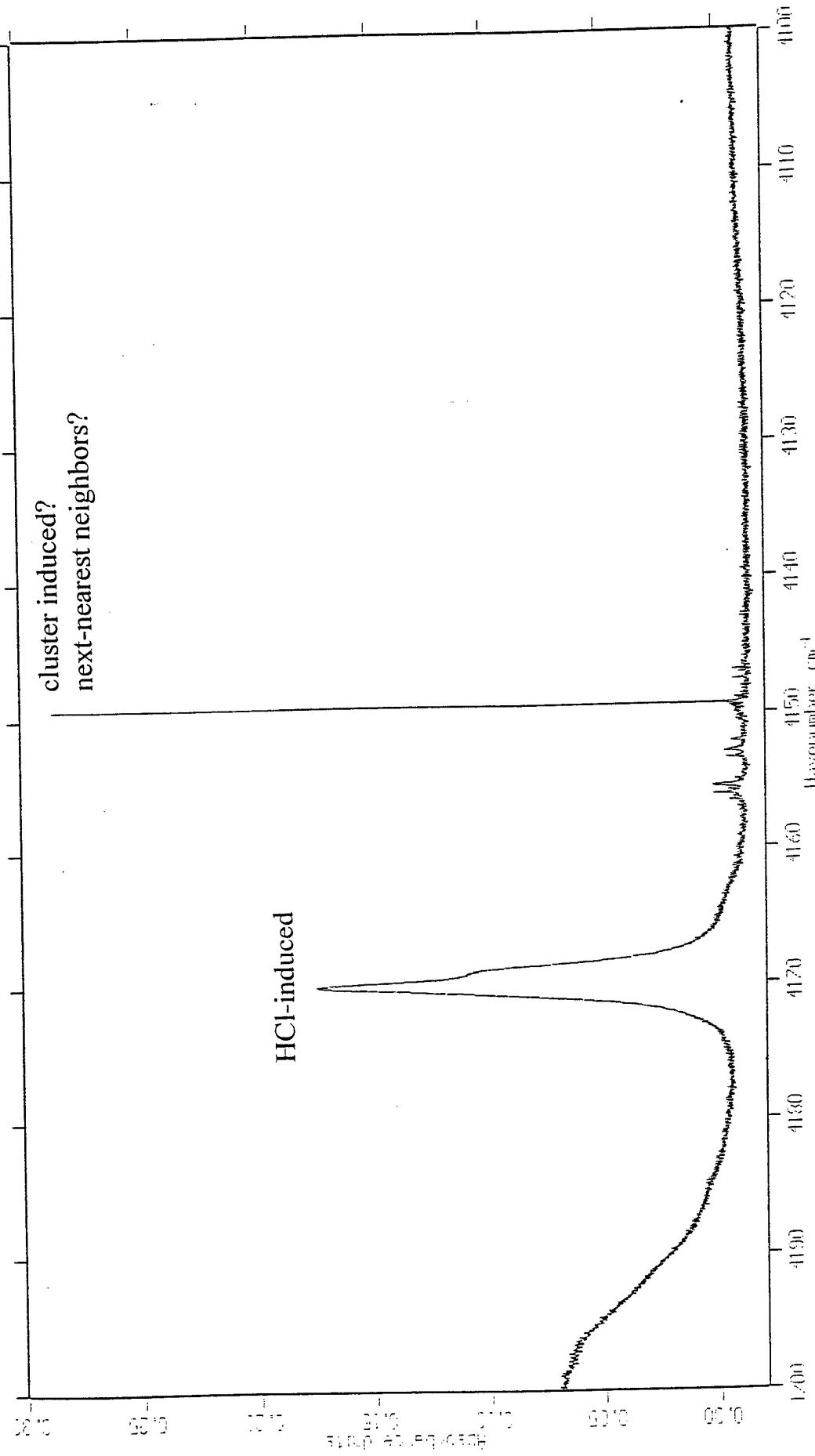
## HCl/pH<sub>2</sub> at 2.4 K, 88 ppm, Resolution = 0.0075 cm<sup>-1</sup> Annealed Sample, HCl Absorptions Region



HCl/pH<sub>2</sub> at 2.4 K, 494 ppm, Resolution = 0.0075 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
As Deposited Sample, Induced Absorption Region

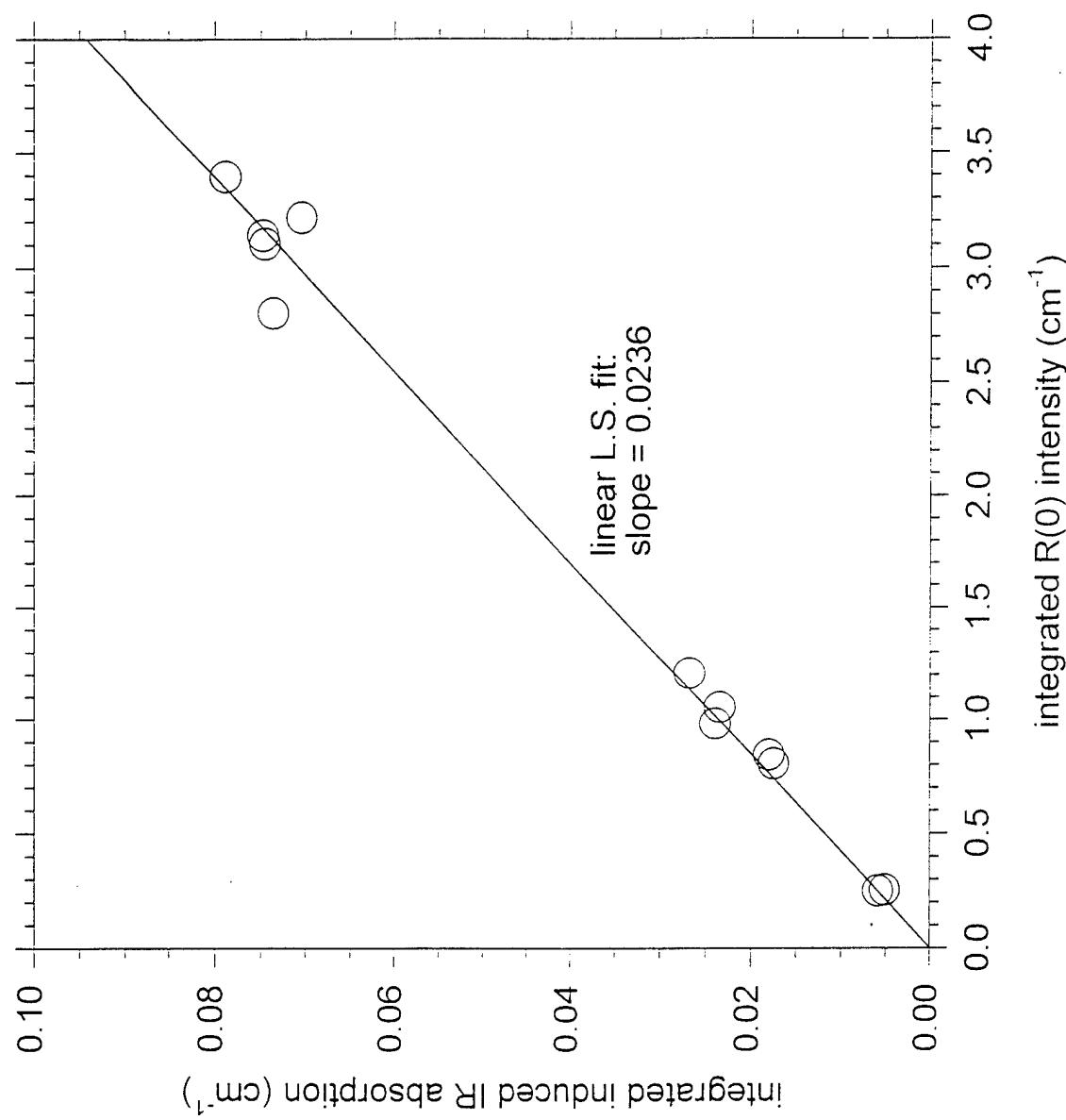
cluster induced?  
next-nearest neighbors?

### HCl-induced



Own  
copy

## Correlation between HCl-Induced $\text{pH}_2$ IR Absorption and HCl $R(0)$ Absorption



## HCl-Induced pH<sub>2</sub> Intrinsic IR Absorption Strength

$$\int \alpha_{\text{ind}}(\text{HCl}/\text{pH}_2) \, dv = 0.0236 \int \alpha(\text{HCl}) \, dv$$

literature:  $\int \alpha(\text{HCl}) \, dv = 19.8 \text{ km/mol}^*$

$\therefore \int \alpha_{\text{ind}}(\text{HCl}/\text{pH}_2) \, dv = \underline{\underline{0.47 \text{ km/mol}}}$

\* K. N. Rao, ed., *Molecular Spectroscopy: Modern Research Vol. III* (Academic Press, Inc., New York, 1985).

**Question:** What is the maximum, measurable concentration of HCl/pH<sub>2</sub>?

Assume: a) 1 mm thick sample

b)  $\int A_{\text{max}} \, dv = 2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$$c_{\text{max}} = \frac{2.303 (2 \text{ cm}^{-1})}{(0.1 \text{ cm})(4.7 \times 10^4 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{mol}})}$$

$$= 9.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/cm}^3$$

$$\Rightarrow 2.3\% \text{ HCl/pH}_2$$

**Answer:**

## SUMMARY

For millimeters thick, heavily-doped samples, direct absorption spectroscopy fails because of limitations on dynamic range and achievable signal-to-noise levels.

Dopant-induced pH<sub>2</sub> transitions are a possible solution to this problem.

- 1) appear to obey Beer's Law
- 2) are very weak IR transitions (i.e., increased dynamic range for heavily doped samples)

For HCl in pH<sub>2</sub>, the intrinsic absorption strength of the induced transition is approximately 2.4% of the intrinsic absorption strength of HCl in the gas phase.

Can calculate the maximum measurable concentration for a HCl-doped pH<sub>2</sub> solid: 2.3% for a 1 mm thick sample, achieving objective of measuring ~1% concentration in millimeters thick samples.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

We are in the process of completing a survey of various dopants in solid pH<sub>2</sub> to determine the generality of using the induced absorptions for concentration measurements.